



## **Chairman J.C. Watts, Jr.**

Former Chairman of the Republican Conference  
United States House of Representatives  
4<sup>th</sup> District of Oklahoma

After four terms in the United States House of Representatives, J.C. Watts, Jr. has become the Chairman of the newly formed J.C. Watts Companies.

Using his extensive leadership and communications background and experience, J.C. Watts has created consulting and public affairs companies that will provide comprehensive public opinion research, image and brand marketing, issue advocacy, diversity consulting, U.S. and international business development and communications crisis management.

J.C. Watts was first elected to represent the fourth district of Oklahoma in the United States House of Representatives in November 1994 with 52 percent of the vote. He won reelection in 1996 with 58 percent, in 1998 with 62 percent and again in 2000 with 65 percent of the vote. Fellow congressmen quickly recognized the leadership qualities of Watts and elected him to serve as the chairman of the House Republican Conference, the fourth-highest position in the House, in 1998. He was re-elected to this leadership position, unopposed, in 2000.

J.C. Watts earned a solid reputation in Oklahoma and throughout the nation as a perceptive and passionate spokesman for improving and redeveloping communities, fiscal discipline, strengthening education, restoring values and bolstering our national defense. Congressman Watts served on the Armed Services Committee and was a member of the Military Readiness Subcommittee and the Procurement Subcommittee. Taking the lead on one of the most important issues of the day, Watts served on the House Select Committee on Homeland Security to develop legislation for the formation of the Department of Homeland Security.

J.C. Watts was born on November 18, 1957 in Eufaula, Oklahoma. He graduated from Eufaula High School in 1976 and attended the University of Oklahoma until his graduation in 1981 with a B.A. in journalism. While at the University of Oklahoma, Watts was quarterback for the Sooners, leading them to two consecutive Big Twelve Championships and Orange Bowl victories. He was voted the Most Valuable Player in the 1980 and 1981 Orange Bowls. From 1981 to 1986, he started for Ottawa and Toronto in the Canadian Football League and was voted the Most Valuable Player of the Grey Cup, the CFL's Super Bowl, his rookie season.

After returning to Oklahoma, Watts served as a youth minister at Sunnyslane Baptist Church in Del City, Oklahoma from January 1987 until December 1994, when he then became associate pastor. In 1990 he was elected to the Oklahoma State Corporation Commission and became chairman before running for Congress in 1994.